

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

"You get the best out of others when you give the best of yourself."
~ Harry Firestone

Friday, December 5, 2008

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility offenders who are part of the facility Shakespeare program presented their adaptation, in today's language, of "Romeo and Juliet" and targeted the presentation to at-risk juveniles. The offenders' goal is to prevent teens from making the same mistakes they made, which ended in incarceration. The production is being taped for viewing by troubled teens in alternative high schools.

In a special ceremony, Camp Summit recognized its 17th graduate of Aramark's Inmate 2 Workmate program, which is a program designed to offer vocational education in the food service arena.

A recent fundraiser by New Castle Correctional Facility offenders netted \$4,700 in profits that will be donated to the "Shop with a Tot" program at the Westminster Community Center in New Castle.

Students at Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility provided assistance at the Thelma Turner-Watkins Center Thanksgiving Day Celebration. Over 7,900 people, who would otherwise go without, were fed dinner.

Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility held a graduation ceremony for 9 graduates of its inaugural Ivy Tech Manufacturing Readiness class. Family and friends were invited to the ceremony, and Ms. Susan Brooks, General Counsel and Senior Vice President for Workforce and Economic Development for Ivy Tech, was the keynote speaker.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility Superintendent Bryan Pearson presented a check in the amount of \$285 to the Lords Locker in Trafalgar, IN. The money will be used for the toy drive that will assist families in the local community.

Plainfield Correctional Facility presented a \$700 check to St. Mark's Episcopal Church Food Bank to assist in restocking the shelves of their food pantry during the holiday season. St. Mark's was chosen to be the recipient of the funds raised by the facility's PLUS unit because of the charity they bestowed upon DOC employees during the June floods.

Pendleton Correctional Facility presented two old windows from the Superintendent's office, dating back to the 1923 construction of the facility, to the Pendleton Historical Museum.

Correctional Industrial Facility received a 100% score on mandatory standards and a 97.9% score on non-mandatory standards during its 2nd year ACA review. The scores were a 3.1% increase over last year's scores.

The offender Jaycee organization at the Indiana State Prison donated over \$1,000 worth of toys to the Salvation Army.

Correctional Industrial Facility's F.I.D.O. (Faith+Inmates+Dogs=Opportunity) program held a meet and greet session in the facility's visiting room. There was considerable paw shaking going on and a good time was had by all.

The Branchville Correctional Facility's Education Department held a graduation ceremony for the Master Student to Master Employee Program. 42 offenders completed the curriculum, which focused on job training, computer skills, interviewing techniques and resume building.

New Castle Correctional Facility offenders finished a building renovation at the Levi Coffin House State Historic Site.

Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility recently received donations totaling \$466 from the local radio controlled airplane club, the Screaming Eagles. The items donated to the recreation department included basketballs, a stereo, pool table covers, a sweeper, cue racks, arts and crafts items, ping pong paddles and balls, and an air pump.

Pendleton Correctional Facility's Shifting Gears operation refurbished 53 bicycles during November, and the Wheels for the World operation restored 17 wheelchairs during November.

CIF sponsored a workshop and worship with Major Douglass Rick of the Salvation Army.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner